

HA-1026

Thomas T. Wysong House; "Shirley"
3316 Sharon Road
Rocks vicinity
Private

ca. 1850

This house is important for its association with Rev. Thomas T. Wysong, the author of The Rocks of Deer Creek (1880), a collection of legends and stories about the area centered on the present Rocks State Park, about one mile from the Wysong House. Wysong included in his book the text of his July 4, 1876 speech at Rocks. He called the house "Shirley". The house was previously owned and perhaps built by James B. Preston, owner of the Preston gristmill near Rocks in the mid-19th century. The Preston and Wysong families were closely related. On both the 1858 and 1878 maps, the house is identified as Preston's.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Thomas T. Wysong House; "Shirley"

AND/OR COMMON
Adams House**2 LOCATION**STREET & NUMBER
3316 Sharon Road

CITY, TOWN

Rocks

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Philip G. Adams

Telephone #: 692-5906

STREET & NUMBER
3316 Sharon Road

CITY, TOWN

Jarrettsville

☐ VICINITY OFSTATE zip code
MD 21084**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Harford County CourthouseLiber #: 696
Folio #: 290

STREET & NUMBER

20 West Courtland Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

MD

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

HA-1026

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Thomas T. Wysong House is a two-story frame house with a rear wing and shed porch built about 1850 and located on the northwest side of Sharon Road about 1/4 mile west of the intersection with Rocks Road (Maryland Route 24) near Rocks, Harford County, Maryland. The main elevation faces southeast.

The house has two sections, a five-bay main section and a two-story wing adjoining the main section at the northeast corner. The principal section has interior end chimneys and a center entry. The shed porch extends across the three central bays. The columns are square and have simple cusped brackets. The doorway has a rectangular transom and sidelights. The windows are 2/2. A simple dentil cornice decorates both sections of the house. The original siding was board and batten, but is now covered with asbestos shingles. The foundation is stone and the roof is slate.

Four outbuildings are located in a group about 25 yards east of the house. Nearest the house is a two-level springhouse. The lower level is stone and the upper level is frame with recent vertical siding. The frame level overhangs the stone about three feet on the north side. The roof is slate. A frame bank barn with a stone foundation appears to have its original vertical siding. It also has a slate roof. A third building appears to be a more recent structure with concrete block foundation, vertical siding, and a sheet metal roof. The fourth outbuilding is a frame corncrib with a slate roof.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) local history
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1850

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house is important for its association with Rev. Thomas T. Wysong, the author of The Rocks of Deer Creek (1880), a collection of legends and stories about the area centered on the present Rocks State Park, about one mile from the Wysong House. Wysong included in his book the text of his July 4, 1876 speech at Rocks. He called the house "Shirley". The house was previously owned and perhaps built by James B. Preston, owner of the Preston gristmill near Rocks in the mid-19th century. The Preston and Wysong families were closely related. On both the 1858 and 1878 maps, the house is identified as Preston's.

NOTE: HA-1026 was originally assigned to the Masonic Temple, Bel Air. This was superceded by HA-1242.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Harford County Directory, 1953
Preston, Walter W., History of Harford County, 1901, repr. 1972
Wright, C. Milton, Our Harford Heritage, 1967, rev. ed. 1980
Wysong, Thomas T., The Rocks of Deer Creek, 1880

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE _____

COUNTY _____

STATE _____

COUNTY _____

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Janet Davis, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Department of Planning & Zoning

DATE

May 1984

STREET & NUMBER

45 So. Main St.

TELEPHONE

(301) 838-6000, ext. 207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

MD 21014

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

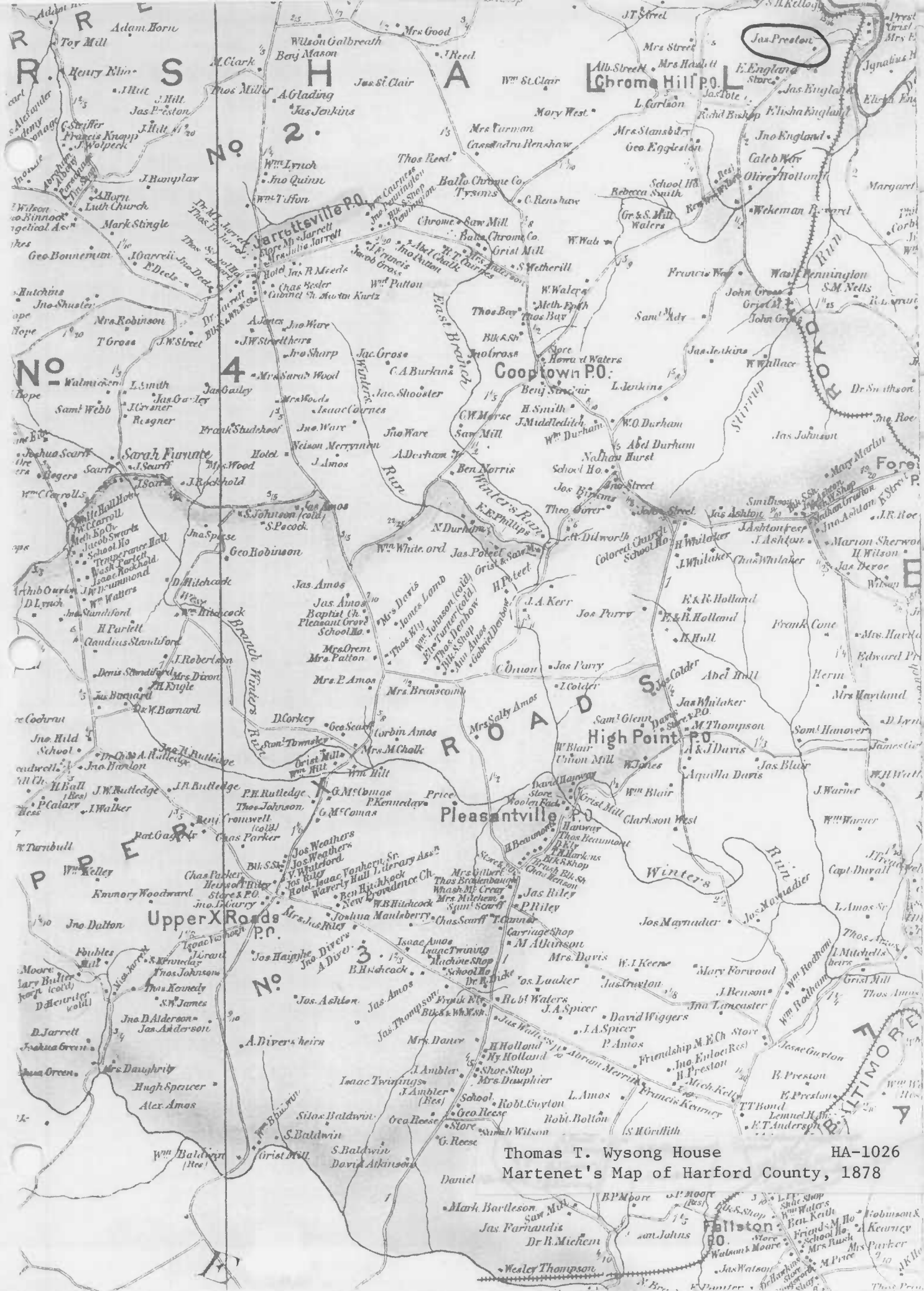
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

THOMAS T. WYSONG HOUSE

HA-1026

CHAIN OF TITLE (PARTIAL)

696/290 14 December 1965	Grantor: Earl T. and Hassie M. Adams Grantee: Philip G. Adams Acreage: 57.25
211/453 17 April 1929	Grantor: John A. Robinson, widower, and Abraham Greenberg, unmarried Grantee: Earl T. and Hassie M. Adams Acreage: 161; part of "Millford Corrected"
208/404 31 July 1928	Grantor: Edwin H. Webster, assignee Grantee: John A. Robinson and Abraham Greenberg Acreage: 161 Amount : \$3400
183/438 1 October 1923	Grantor: James H. and Helen J. Preston Grantee: Dewey G. Rhodes and James O. and Jettie Rhodes Acreage: 161 Amount : \$4000
120/326 4 March 1907	Grantor: Frank Wysong Grantee: James H. Preston Acreage: 50; part of "Millford Corrected . . . on the north side of the public road leading from Rutledge's Fording on Deer Creek to Cooptown and Jarrettsville" " . . . all the lands of Sarah Wysong deceased in May 1892" (Will Book GSN 12/191)
31/76 5 November 1874	Grantor: Mary E. Ruff Grantee: Sarah F. Wysong Acreage: 106
28/375 7 April 1873	Grantor: James B. and Caroline J. Preston and James H. Ruff Grantee: Sarah F. Wysong, wife of Thomas T. Wysong Acreage: 106; " . . . lands of James B. Preston, Sr., deceased
28/372 7 April 1873	Grantor: Thomas T. and Sarah F. Wysong and James H. Ruff Grantee: James B. and Caroline J. Preston Acreage: 106



Thomas T. Wysong House
Martenet's Map of Harford County, 1878

HA-1026



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	—————	Light-duty	—————
Medium-duty	- - - - -	Unimproved dirt
U. S. Route	□	State Route	○



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

FA Thomas T. Wysong House
 Harford County
 USGS 7.5 minute series
 Fawn Grove, Md.-Pa. Quadrangle
 Scale: 1:24000

HA-1026



Thomas T. Wysong House

HA-1026

Harford County

Photographer: Janet Davis

April 1984

South elevation

2/6

Neg. loc: Maryland Historical Trust



Thomas T. Wysong House

HA-1026

Harford County

Photographer: Janet Davis

April 1984

Neg. loc: Maryland Historical Trust

Distant view from south

1/6



Thomas T. Wysong House

HA-1026

Harford County

Photographer: Janet Davis

April 1984

Neg. loc: Maryland Historical Trust

Barn

6/6



Thomas T. Wysong House

HA-1026

Harford County

Photographer: Janet Davis

April 1984

Neg. loc: Maryland Historical Trust

Springhouse

5/6



Thomas T. Wysong House
Harford County
Photographer: Janet Davis
April 1984

HA-1026

West elevation

3/6

Neg. loc: Maryland Historical Trust



Thomas T. Wysong House

HA-1026

Harford County

Photographer: Janet Davis

April 1984

Neg. loc: Maryland Historical Trust

Outbuildings, from south

4/6